

Message Text

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO USINT CAIRO IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY AMMAN

UNCLAS STATE 220404

TOSEC 210, ZFF CAIRO ONLY

E.O. 11652 N/A

TAGS: OVIP

SUBJ: REUTER ITEM ON ME NEGOTIATIONS

THE FOLLOWING IS A REUTER ITEM BY ARYE WALLERSTEIN:

QUOTE TEL AVIV, NOV. 7, REUTER--COMPLETE SECRECY WAS OBSERVED OVER PROPOSALS BROUGHT TO ISRAEL TONIGHT FROM CAIRO BY UNITED STATES ASSISTANT SECRETARY OF STATE JOSEPH SISCO, BUT TALKS HE HAD WITH PRIME MINISTER MRS GOLDA MEIR WERE DESCRIBED IN AN OFFICIAL ANNOUNCEMENT AS CONSTRUCTIVE.

SISCO FLEW HERE UNEXPECTEDLY WEDNESDAY NIGHT, BY WAY OF CYPRUS, FROM CAIRO WHERE U.S. SECRETARY OF STATE DR HENRY KISSINGER HAD A THREE HOUR MEETING WITH PRESIDENT ANWAR SADAT.

A LACONIC ANNOUNCEMENT AFTER SISCO HAD MET MRS. MEIR SAID THE TOPICS DISCUSSED WERE THOSE RAISED BY KISSINGER
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IN CAIRO.

THE AMOSPHERE WAS GOOD AT THE MEETING, WHICH WAS ALSO ATTENDED BY DEPUTY PRIME MINISTER YIGAL ALLON, DEFENSE

MINISTER GENERAL MOSHE DAYAN, AND MAJOR GENERAL AHARON YARIV, A CLOSE AIDE OF THE DEFENSE MINISTER, THE ANNOUNCEMENT SAID.

OBSERVERS HERE SAID THAT WHATEVER THE FORMULA DEvised BY KISSINGER AND PUT FORWARD IN HIS TALKS WITH PRESIDENT SADAT, IT MUST HAVE INCLUDED PROPOSALS FOR TANGIBLE CONCESSIONS BY ISRAEL.

THEY SPECULATED THAT IT MIGHT ALSO CONTAIN INDUCEMENT AIMED AT INFLUENCING AN ISRAELI DECISION AND, IN ORDER TO HAVE A CHANCE OF ACCEPTANCE, MIGHT HAVE BY PASSED THE MAJOR INITIAL HURDLE OF THE FATE OF THE EGYPTIAN THIRD ARMY -- WHICH THE ISRAELIS CLAIM TO HAVE ENCIRCLED EAST OF THE SUEZ CANAL.

ISRAELI OFFICIALS WERE TAKEN BY SURPRISE BY SISCOS VISIT AND THE REACTION OF SOME OF THEM WAS TO DOUBT THE VALUE OF ANY PLAN HATCHED SO QUICKLY AND ACCEPTED SO SWIFTLY BY PRESIDENT SADAT.

SISCOS SUDDEN ARRIVAL IN TEL AVIV COINCIDED WITH REPORTS FROM THE FRONT LINE WHICH, ACCORDING TO AN ISRAELI MILITARY SPOKESMAN, INDICATED EGYPTIAN PREPARATIONS TO RESUME HOSTILITIES.

RNR 247, 248

REUTER GR/FD 1914 END QUOTE. RUSH

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